2 with restricted chemical composition as below:

Carbon	0.17 — 0.21%
Manganese	0.50 — 0.90%
Sulphur &	0.05%
Phosphorous	max. each.

(c) MSTC in their purchase order gave the specification IS: 2830/75 Gr. II Fe 410 SB 2 with chemical composition as below:

Carbon	0.17 — 0.23%
Manganese	0.50 — 0.90%
Sulphur &	0.05%
Phosphorous	max. each.

The change in range of carbon content had the acceptance of SAIL.

(d) MMTC has reported that the billets were inspected by an independent inspection agency, namely Societe Generale de Surveillance (SGS). The inspection report indicated that the materials were in conformity with IS 2830/75 Fe 410 SB 2 billets. The test certificates however gave the following composition.

Carbon	00.17 — 0.23%
Manganese	0.50 — 0.90%
Sulphur &	0.05%
Phosphorous	max.
Copper	0.40 percent max.
Copper + Nickel + Chromium	0.80 percent max.

The presence of Copper, Nickel and Chromium was not as per agreement between MMTC/SAIL and Supplier.

(e) The extent of loss to SAIL/MMTC will depend upon the disposal of material to alternative actual users for which authorization has already been given to MMTC. SAIL have lodged a claim on MMTC for Rs. 17 37 crore plus storage and interest charges.

Supply of Copper Anode Slimes by HCL

1753. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Copper Limited had entered into an agreement with a company for supply of 60 MT of Copper Anode Slimes @ 5 MT every month during 1986-87;

(b) whether it is a fact that HCL stopped supplying the material to the company;

(c) what action is being taken against the persons concerned who have taken this unilateral decision thus bringing bad name to the HCL; and

(d) by when the supplies of Copper Anode Slimes are likely to be resumed to the said company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and d) As provided under the terms of the contract, the Gujarat Bullion Refinery has referred the matter to arbitration. Resumption of supplies would depend on the outcome of the arbitration proceedings. The question of taking action against any person therefore, does not arise.

Fall in marine fish landings

1754. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a steep fall in marine fish catch as reported in the 'Times of India' of 27th October, 1986, if so, the reasons therefor and corrective steps taken so far and results thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that life standard of fishermen and fish venders has gone down due to the entry